

JORDAN TIMES

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AMMAN, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1976 — SAFAR 22, 1396 A.H.

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U.N. Palestinian body to meet
UNITED NATIONS, New York, Feb. 20 (AFP). — The special committee set up by the General Assembly last month to handle the exercise of Palestinian rights will hold its first meeting next Thursday.
The Committee's brief is to work out a programme enabling Palestinians to implement their rights to self-determination without external interference and to independence and national sovereignty.

Italy wins confidence vote
Rome, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The Italian Parliament gave a vote of confidence to Prime Minister Aldo Moro's new Christian Democrat government.
The vote in the Chamber of Deputies was 20, with 60 abstentions, in favour of the government.
A second vote of confidence is to be held in the Italian Senate on Wednesday, but that is expected to be purely a formality.

Rifai: Israel must talk peace with PLO

(Agencies, J.T.). — Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last Thursday told American Jewish communities that the Israeli government had decided to open peace negotiations with Jordan.
"Jordan will continue to back the PLO in order to enable it to carry out its pan-Arab and international commitments," Mr Rabin said.
Mr Rabin said Jordan's attitude to the question of negotiations was well-known and was in line with Jordan's commitment to the resolutions of the Arab League.

Rabat Arab Summit in 1974.
"Jordan will not negotiate with Israel because it does not consider itself a party to any possible negotiations and not a substitute for the PLO," he said in a statement to the newspaper.
"If Israel is earnest in the statements of its leaders it should turn to the real representative of the Palestinian people and agree that the PLO should be invited to the peace conference in Geneva."
Mr Rabin said Israel's first step to prove the good intentions it professed would be to proclaim its readiness to give up all occupied Arab territory, including the whole of the Golan Heights, Sinai, Gaza and the West Bank, including the Arab sector of Jerusalem.



HITS HIM HARD. — Muhammad Ali lands a blow to the jaw of Jean Pierre Coopman during their world heavyweight boxing championship fight Friday night in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which Ali won in the fifth round. (See story page 3).

Kissinger: U.S. recognises need for flexibility on M.E. peace procedures

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 21 (R). — Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said in a letter published here today that the United States was prepared to hold bilateral meetings with the Soviet Union, in advance of a preparatory conference aimed at a resumption of Geneva Middle East peace talks.
He was replying to one of two identical letters which U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim sent on January 27 to the two co-chairmen of the Geneva conference, the U.S. and the Soviet Union.
Dr. Kissinger recalled that the U.S. had already proposed a "preparatory conference of those who have participated so far in negotiations looking toward a settlement within the Geneva conference."
In his letter Dr. Kissinger said the U.S. "repeatedly affirmed its recognition that there will be no permanent peace unless it includes arrangements that take into account the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people."
He said the U.S. recognised the need for a degree of flexibility on the procedures through which the momentum of the negotiating process might be maintained.
Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, whose reply to Mr. Waldheim's letter was published on Wednesday, said the reconvening of the Geneva conference, with the participation of the PLO was the only reliable way of achieving agreement on all questions involved. He said that, "without participation" (Continued on page 6)

Arab resistance, Israeli reprisals, continue to dominate West Bank

AMMAN, (J.T.). — Arab travellers coming to Amman from the West Bank have told the Jordan Times that the continued Arab resistance effort there has provoked increased detention and arrest measures on the part of the Israeli authorities, and that in some cases Israeli military and police forces are using force to subdue demonstrations by Arab schoolchildren.
According to these reports, and information from sources close to the resistance effort on the West Bank, the most obvious step-up in Israeli reprisal and "preventive" activities has taken place in and around the town of Nablus.
As of late Saturday afternoon, Israeli military police units were scattered throughout the town pounding on doors of Arab homes and arresting "scores" of citizens in a "wide campaign" to stop demonstrations there.
Over 300 university and secondary students have been deported from the Nablus region during the past week, the sources say, and most of the students have been given six-month exit permits and forcibly taken to the Jordan River bridges where they crossed into Jordan.
According to these same sources, Friday night in Nablus has been dubbed "the night of the arrests."
At the Aishiyah Girls School in Nablus, Israeli police let loose several police dogs to quell a demonstration by the girls.
The schoolchildren retaliated by throwing stones at the policemen, who in turn threw several of the girls onto the ground and stepped on their faces.
In other incidents, policemen have stormed private homes of Arab citizens and beaten people they claim are instigators and organisers of the demonstrations that have engulfed the West Bank since an Israeli court ruled on January 29 that Israelis may pray at the Al Aqsa Mosque in Occupied Jerusalem.
Special Israeli military courts have been set up throughout the West Bank and have held several night sessions to cope with the increasing number of arrested Arabs.
According to travellers from the area, 125 Arabs have been locked up in the Ramallah and Bireh region, and 75 in Nablus.
The Arabs have routinely refused to pay the fines imposed by the Israeli military courts because the Arab population has refused to recognise the legitimacy of the courts.
Several schools remain shut down throughout the West Bank, and there are also reports that schoolteachers are being arrested along with their Arab students.
In Nablus, Israeli police units have taken up positions on rooftops throughout the city. (Continued on page 6)

Sinai disengagement to be completed today

CAIRO, Feb. 21, (AFP). — Egyptian forces will Sunday complete their advance under the second Sinai disengagement agreement by moving to the sector south of the Gidi and Mitla passes, a military spokesman confirmed here today.
A brief ceremony at a wind-swept outpost Saturday marked the Israeli withdrawal from a part of the Sinai desert as agreed last September between Israel and Egypt.

Sadat starts Gulf tour in S. Arabia

RIYADH, Feb. 21, (R). — President Anwar Sadat of Egypt began a state visit to Saudi Arabia today during which he is expected to seek more aid for his ailing economy and have important talks on Middle East peace moves with King Khalid.
The monarch led Saudi dignitaries to greet Mr Sadat at Riyadh airport when the Egyptian leader arrived heading a strong ministerial team including Prime Minister Mamedouh Salem.
Government sources in Cairo say that Mr Sadat will visit Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait after his five days in Saudi Arabia.
King Khalid's government has shown little enthusiasm for Egyptian policy on the Middle East dispute since Cairo concluded the American sponsored interim agreement with Israel last September.
This, observers think, may have contributed to a lukewarm response so far to a call by Mr Sadat for urgent Arab aid worth some 4,000 million dollars to help the Egyptian economy. (Continued on page 6)



THIONS MOVES IN. — A U.N. trooper is pictured at post near Giddi Pass as Israeli troops leave in trucks (in truck) move in to take up their new positions.

Nixon start China visit

Feb. 21, (R). — The visit will also afford President Richard Nixon an opportunity to present the little-known Mr Hua to the outside world and show that, despite internal problems, its basic foreign policy will not be changed.
Senior Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, who had been expected to succeed Mr Chou En-lai as Premier, was making his first appearance since the announcement two months ago that he had been appointed premier following the death of Mr Chou En-lai.
There has been no reaction from American critics who say the visit may damage Ford's chances in the forthcoming primary election Tuesday.
Some have speculated that he may use the occasion to establish full relations with the U.S.



SECOND TRIP. — Former U.S. President Richard Nixon (centre) and his wife Pat are accompanied by Chinese Ambassador to Japan Chen Chu as the Nixons' board their plane in Tokyo heading for their China visit.

Lebanese cabinet moves to settle question of deserters

BEIRUT, Feb. 21 (AFP). — The Lebanese cabinet agreed here today on steps to settle the outstanding problem of soldiers deemed to have deserted during the nine-month civil war which ended a month ago.
Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that soldiers had until March 1 to return to their posts, adding that this did not apply to those who had committed individual murders unconnected with recent "events," or had carried out killings in barracks or military posts. But he gave no other details of the decisions.
The main problem is thought to be that of the new self-styled "Army of Arab Lebanon," formed in January by 33-year-old Lieutenant Ahmed Khatib, who accused his superiors of bias to conservative forces in the civil war.
He left with about 15 armoured vehicles and several dozen men, and his supporters say he has since received reinforcements.
Today's cabinet meeting was attended by the army Commander-in-Chief, General Haddad. The cabinet is also studying emergency economic measures, and will meet again on Tuesday.
The Chamber of Deputies will begin a three-week special session on Monday, Mr. Karami announced.
Security sources meanwhile said tonight that four people were killed in the northern town of Tripoli today in a clash between Moslem gunmen of different groups.
They added that two of the four people kidnapped from a garage earlier in the day were freed.

Cypriot talks end with agreement to meet again in May

VIENNA, Feb. 21 (AFP). — Greek Cypriot negotiator Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot negotiator Rauf Denktaş today ended the fifth round of United Nations sponsored talks on the political future of Cyprus with an agreement to meet again in Vienna in May.
They issued a communique saying that they also agreed to meet in Cyprus with a special representative of U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim "in order to examine in a spirit of goodwill a number of humanitarian problems."

The communique said that during the five days of talks the negotiators "held substantive discussions on the territorial and constitutional issues" and that "it has been agreed that an exchange of written proposals through the special representative of the Secretary General (Perez de Cuellar) will take place in Cyprus within the next six weeks."

It said they will meet again in May "with a view to establishing a common basis prior to referring the matter to mixed committees in Cyprus."

Observers said Mr Waldheim had managed to persuade both sides to go further than before into the basic problems without insisting on preconditions.

"We have certainly made progress," the U.N. Secretary-General said.

"For one thing, we have agreed in clear terms on the future procedure of negotiations, which was up to now completely open. This shows a determination to keep the negotiations moving."

JORDAN TIMES
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A timely trip

There is some significance that the Egyptian-Israeli Sinai disengagement agreement border adjustments will be completed on the same day, today, Sunday, that a new United Nations envoy sets off for another tour of the Middle East. The envoy of Mr. Waldheim, Mr. Guyer, aims to visit Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Syria, and will probably have talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

The Israelis apparently believe they can disregard the Sinai front for the next several years, insofar as the latest agreement commits Egypt to a policy of non-belligerency that effectively eliminates the Sinai front from Israeli war calculations.

If this is so, and one suspects that President Sadat is too anxious to strengthen his new American connection to simply tear up the Sinai agreement and go to war again, then Israel sits tight without much worry of a war on any front. This is because a war without Egypt is not much of a war at all, and everybody knows it.

Now that the latest Kissinger-inspired move in the Middle East situation has been completed, what happens next? The U.N. envoy's trip is a sign that Mr. Waldheim is worried about the possibility of war breaking out in the Middle East if there is no further progress towards peace. His worry is partly justified, but for the wrong reasons that he and others probably believe.

The general suspicion around the world is that the Arabs will start another war if there is no further progress towards peace, but progress that includes the lynchpin element of Palestinian justice in a peace deal.

The fact is, the Sinai agreement and Mr. Sadat's vulnerable arms supply situation have effectively cut off the Arab war option. Egyptian relations with Moscow are cool as ever, and the likelihood of the Soviets resupplying the Egyptians to the point where they could initiate and sustain a long war is unlikely.

So where's the threat to war? There is one, of course, but it comes from Israel. Internally, the Israelis face a whole series of difficult dilemmas and some very serious economic problems. Their immigration rate is so low and the emigration outflow so high they fear 1976 will end up with a net outflow of people. To them, this signals the beginning of the end of the grand Zionist experiment in Palestine.

As always, the Israelis have one thing they can always fall back on (not counting war bonds, tax-free philanthropic confusion in the U.S. and the ever-ready friends of Israel in Congress). This option, of course, is war, and it is no coincidence that Israel thinks it has always emerged from a war in better shape than when it went in.

So if Mr. Waldheim's envoy is here to talk about peace, he should ask the Israelis when they will consider talking to the only people in the world who can offer them peace, the Palestinians. And if he is interested in discussing war, he should also ask the Israelis why they need more sophisticated and destructive weapons from the United States at a time when the Arab states have been deprived of the full war option by a stroke of Mr. Sadat's pen.

If Mr. Guyer gets answers from Israel, then he'll have something to do when he visits the Arab states. Otherwise, he might as well stay home.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The negotiations proposed by the Israeli premier between Israel and Jordan is addressed to the wrong party at the wrong time Al-Ra'i said.

The Israeli "declaration" that Israel has decided to resume negotiations with Jordan is another way of evading the real problem, the paper added.

Al-Ra'i questioned why Israel had chosen Jordan.

Jordan has nothing to negotiate on, the paper said. It is understood that the Arab stand in any forthcoming negotiations will be based on two principles:

1. The core of the Middle East problem is a question of existence rather than of borders. If the Americans along with the Israelis realise this fact, they will also realize that the solution lies in the hands of the Palestinians and their legal representative the P.L.O.

2. The site for negotiations is Geneva and nowhere else. The question was settled when the U.S. vetoed the recent Security Council resolution and when Israel made its new "offer" for negotiations. If Israel is really looking for

peace, then as Mr. Zeid Rifa'i said, it ought to recognise the rights of the Palestinians to exist as a people and to meet with their legitimate representative at Geneva, Al-Ra'i concluded.

The expected visit of the U.N. Secretary General's special envoy to the area will be wasted unless the envoy stresses the need for the implementation of U.N. resolutions on the Arab-Israeli problem, particularly the Security Council resolution calling on Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, Addustour said.

The envoy's mission will be affected to a certain extent by the American and Soviet stands on the question in addition to the Israeli one the paper said.

Ad Dustour said that the stand of the United States will be reflected in Israel's position on the U.N. envoy's mission.

It is understood this mission will be another attempt to lead the area on the path to peace. However, real peace means a just peace and that ultimately hinges on the Arabs' determination to liberate their homeland and restore their legitimate rights, Ad Dustour concluded.

British Airways starts Amman-London VC10 Superflight service

By LINA GRESS

The British Airways Superflight VC10 made its first happy landing in Amman Saturday to a welcome by a group of Jordanian and British dignitaries.

"We encourage foreign planes to come to Jordan; this will make Jordan and our cultural heritage known to the world in addition to promoting tourism," said the Director-General of Tourism Mr. Ghaleb Abu Jaber in a welcoming airport speech.

The British Airways Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Basil Bamfylde, who arrived on the inaugural flight declared: "We shall operate in cooperation with the Jordanian Government and the national airlines Alia."

The British Ambassador in Amman, Mr. John Moberly said: "The decision of British Airways to come here is another example of the great interest and renewed confidence in the development and progress of

Jordan now being shown by many commercial concerns in Britain."

From the Jordanian point of view, the well-known businessman Mr. Tewfik Kattan, who is also on the BA Board of Agents, thinks that the Superflight VC 10 to Amman will make large economic cooperation between Jordan and Britain, in addition to increasing touristic activities.

The Director-General of Alia, Mr. Ali Ghandour said for his part: "cooperation, not competition, shall be our motto."

Mr. Ghandour further explained that an additional flight will widen the bridge between Jordan and the United Kingdom and increase opportunities for the exchange of travel, trade and technology between the two countries.

The BA flight also brought Miss Superflight, Roz Hanby, whose face adorns all BA advertisements.



Roz Hanby

Roz Hanby, 23, has been a stewardess for three years and was chosen in 1975 from among 200 women to be the British Airways ambassador to promote the airline's interests on TV, in cinema and the press, as well as to go round the world on inaugural and other special flights.

5th Arab conference on health starts today

AMMAN. — The fifth Arab Health Ministers Conference starts here Sunday to discuss coordination of the Arab stand at the coming meetings of the World Health Organisation General Assembly (WHO) scheduled for May in Geneva.

The conferees will also discuss medical aid for Lebanon and support for the health services of the Palestinian revolution. The establishment of an

Arab Pharmaceutical company is also on the agenda of the 4-day conference.

Delegations from Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Sudan and Libya arrived here Saturday to participate in the conference. The regional director of WHO and representatives from the Arab Economic Unity Council were also among Saturday's arrivals. Acting Minister of Health Dr. Mohammad

Adhoub Zebe was pre Amman airport to welcome various delegations.

Jordan, Germany sign air accord

AMMAN, Feb. 21. — and West Germany today signed an agreement to av-

able taxation on the in the two countries' air-cluding their officials.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Mahmoud Al-Hav Jordanian Minister of

port, and Herr Horst the West German am here.

WHAT'S GOING

If you know of an which would interest others, please phone 61 between 10.00—14.00.

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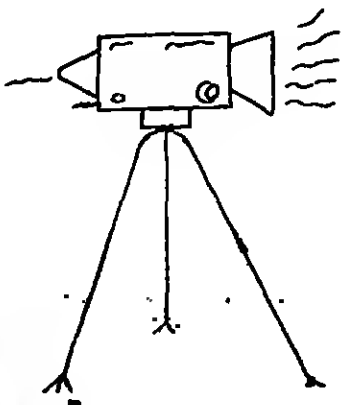
Desperate Characters

Starring:

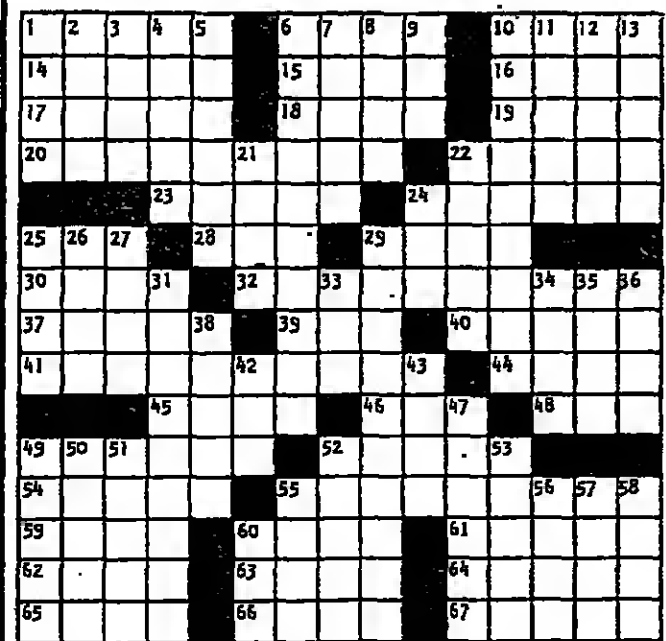
SHIRLEY MCLAIN

KENNETH MARS

Show time 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Additional shows on Friday & Sunday 10.30am.



Crossword Puzzle

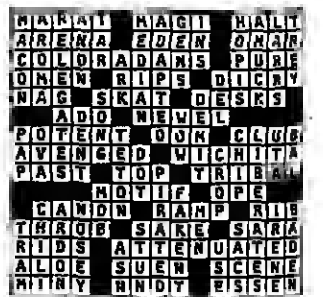


ACROSS

- 1 Find fault without good reason
- 6 Second
- 10 Comparison word
- 14 Genus of oats
- 15 Marco
- 16 Casino city
- 17 Fortification
- 18 Beyond the
- 19 Dismounted
- 20 Conveys
- 22 Folklore dwarf
- 23 Deserves
- 24 Sewed temporarily
- 25 Paid notices
- 28 Spread for drying
- 29 Chain
- 30 Imposed
- 32 Sanctuary
- 37 Moves gradually
- 39 Pike-like fish
- 40 Earnest
- 41 Trust
- 44 To be: Lat.
- 45 Suffix of inflammation
- 46 State further
- 48 Beige
- 49 Placed at intervals
- 52 "Get Your Gun"
- 54 Phonetic sound
- 55 Found
- 59 English princess
- 60 City in Italy
- 61 Sacred scripture
- 62 Astonish
- 63 And others: 2 wds.
- 64 King of Thebes
- 65 Lame
- 66 Wax
- 67 Double curves
- 9 Shoe part
- 10 Render
- 11 Slave
- 12 Resin used in varnish
- 13 Famous
- 21 Guitar part
- 22 Capital
- 24 Legal profession
- 25 Waugh
- 26 Part of a pedestal
- 27 Indication
- 29 Related to trading
- 31 Lacking
- 33 Prohibit
- 34 List of players
- 35 Kirk
- 36 Pleasure garden
- 38 Locations
- 42 Performed
- 43 Best
- 47 Bulb-planting tool
- 49 Long deep cut
- 50 Five: Comb. form
- 51 Cancel
- 52 "— Is Born": 2 wds.
- 53 Howe
- 55 Italian family
- 56 Wedding bird
- 57 Swing around
- 58 Nazi leader
- 60 Nuclear overhauls: Abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Two-wheeled vehicle
- 2 Asseverate
- 3 — Ann Borg
- 4 Silly
- 5 East Indian fruit
- 6 Adjuncts
- 7 Wild hogs
- 8 Building wings



Television

CHANNEL 3 & 6 :

- 6.00 Quran
- 6.10 Cartoons
- 6.30 Arabic series
- 8.00 News in Arabic
- CHANNEL 3 :
- 7.30 Development programme
- 8.30 Arabic series

9.30 Wrestling

CHANNEL 6 :

- 7.30 News in Hebrew
- 7.45 Varieties
- 8.30 And mother makes five
- 9.00 Mountbatten
- 10.00 News in English
- 10.15 Hawai 5-0 (on both channels)

Amman Airport

DEPARTURES :

- 7.20 Beirut
- 8.45 Beirut (M.E.A.)
- 12.00 Cairo (E.A.)
- 13.30 Riyadh (Saudia)
- 19.00 Bahrain, Bangkok
- 19.30 Abou Dhabi, Karachi
- 20.30 Tehran
- 21.00 Jeddah
- 21.30 Baghdad, Kuwait
- ARRIVALS :
- 9.50 Beirut
- 11.00 Cairo (E.A.)

12.30 Jeddah, Madina (Saudia)

- 16.00 Rome
- 16.30 Paris
- 16.55 London
- 17.20 Copenhagen, Frankfurt
- 17.30 Casablanca, Madrid, Athens
- 17.30 Cairo
- 17.35 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
- 18.30 Beirut, (M.E.A.)

Radio

[ON 886 KHZ]

- 7.00 Breakfast show.
- 7.30 News Bulletin
- 7.45 Morning Melodies
- 12.00 Pop session (part I)
- 13.00 News Summary
- 13.03 Pop session (part II)
- 14.00 News Bulletin
- 14.10 Radio magazine
- 14.30 Opera in Germany
- 15.00 Classical Music
- 15.30 Light Instrumentals
- 16.00 Old Favourites
- 16.30 Easy listening
- 17.00 Studio one
- 18.00 News Summary
- 18.05 Listener's choice
- 19.00 News Bulletin
- 19.10 News reports
- 19.30 Sign off.

Market Price

- Apples (Double Red) 200—240
- Apples (Golden) 110—150
- Apples (Starken) 120—180
- Bananas 150—180
- Bell Pepper 100—120
- Beets 50—65
- Cabbage 40—60
- Cauliflower 40—70
- Chestnuts 300—330
- Carrots (Yellow) 50—70
- Carrots (Black) 50—70
- Cucumbers (Small) 300—340
- Cucumbers (Large) 200—250
- Grapefruit 35—50
- Garlic 60—80
- Lemon (Large) 80—120
- Lettuce 80—90
- Lettuce (Small) 30—50
- Hot Pepper 300—340
- Horse Beans 100—140
- Marrow (Small) 90—120
- Mandarines 60—75
- Onion 120—150
- Oranges (French) 70—100
- Oranges 80—110
- Oranges (Naval) 80—120
- Potatoes (Imported) 70—
- Potatoes (Local) 80—100
- Potatoes (Sweet) 40—55
- String Beans 150—190
- Tangerines 50—90
- Tomatoes 80—90

Tonight's Emergencies

DOCTORS :

- Ali Hawamdeh (23942)
- Mustapha Affaneh (56344)
- PHARMACIES :
- Habayeb (42930)
- Jerusalem (21370)
- Jabal Annas (56728)
- Jala' (24228)
- TAXIS :
- Khayyam (41541)
- Firas (23437)
- Al Mahd (22038)

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THE OFFICE EQUIPMENT

MARKET PRICE

Oranges 20-25
Pineapples 15-20
Bananas 10-15
Mangoes 15-20
Guavas 10-15
Lemon 10-15
Lime 10-15
Pomegranates 10-15
Dates 10-15
Walnuts 10-15
Almonds 10-15
Pistachios 10-15
Cashews 10-15
Brazil Nuts 10-15
Peanut Butter 10-15
Cocoa Butter 10-15
Vanilla 10-15
Saffron 10-15
Turmeric 10-15
Cloves 10-15
Cinnamon 10-15
Cardamom 10-15
Mustard 10-15
Coriander 10-15
Fenugreek 10-15
Sesame 10-15
Rice 10-15
Wheat 10-15
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Millet 10-15
Sorghum 10-15
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Barley 10-15
Oats 10-15
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Buckwheat 10-15
Rye 10-15
Tritic 10-15

Mercenaries return to U.K. to face public inquiry over killings

AMMAN, Feb. 21, (R). — Those of the 200 or so British mercenaries who did get to the battle front suffered heavy casualties.

Survivors told of facing Russian-built T-54 tanks with out-of-date rocket launchers. They told of Cuban soldiers pushing forward in waves, regardless of casualties.

One returning mercenary John Banks, charged that much of the money intended to buy equipment wound up in the pockets of British gangsters.

The 27-year-old Banks was himself a leading organizer of the mercenary recruiting. He helped run an agency called Security Advisory Services whose function was to enlist Britons for foreign wars.

The men set off confidently, pursued to airport departure lounges by sceptical newsmen. Once in Zaire on their way to the battle zone they found themselves hastily kitted out and pushed into a type of combat few had ever experienced or trained for.

Professional military observers believed that even a well-trained and heavily equipped force would have had trouble stemming the Cuban advance by the time they arrived on the scene in January.

Once back in Britain after only two weeks abroad, the crestfallen mercenaries were closely questioned by detectives.

There was some suggestion of prosecuting any mercenaries known to have taken part in executing their comrades. But this idea was quickly dropped after government experts examined the host of legal pitfalls.

The idea of outlawing mercenary recruiters also seemed fraught with difficulty. Under British law nobody except bankrupts and suspected criminals can be prevented from leaving the country.

The last spate of mercenary recruiting in Europe was for the Congo struggles of the 1960s. If some British politicians have their way the day of the soldier of fortune will be ended for good.



THE CHAMP. — Muhammad Ali (right) talks to reporters in San Juan, Puerto Rico, after defeating Belgian contender Jean Pierre Coopman (left) in the fifth round.

Ali pounds Coopman - KO retains boxing crown

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, Feb. 21, (R). — The world heavy weight crown was still the prized possession of Muhammad Ali.

He grasped the middle rope today after the champion knocked out an outclassed Jean Pierre Coopman in the fifth round at the Roberto Clemente Coliseum here last night.

In a bout that had been labelled a mismatch from the day it was announced, Ali finished the Belgian stonemason with the first hard right he threw in the fight.

The end came after two minutes, 46 seconds of the fifth round when Coopman was unable to make it to his feet after Ali had landed a lightning-quick left hook and right cross combination to the head.

The 29-year-old Belgian went into a slow-motion descent. He grasped the middle rope for a second or two and then slumped further forward with both hands on the canvas.

Ali had justified the match by saying he deserved an easy title defence after the brutal slugging match against Joe Frazier in Manila last October 1.

Now Ali wants to fight American Jimmy Young. Promoter Don King, who staged last night's match, said he was trying to match Ali and Young for late April in San Jose, Costa Rica.

It was Ali's fifth successful defence in his current reign, for which Don King paid him one million dollars. Coopman's purse was 75,000 dollars—about 10 times more than he earned for a year.

Kuwait, Bahrain sign tariffs pact

BAHRAIN, Feb. 21 (R). — Kuwait and Bahrain agreed today to drop customs duties on goods manufactured by each other, it was officially announced here today.

A Bahraini government spokesman said this was decided at the end of talks between a Bahraini delegation and a Kuwaiti mission which is on an 11-day tour of the Gulf.

He said the two sides also signed a protocol to co-operate on a number of industrial projects in the two countries, but did not give details.

Waldheim M.E. peace envoy begins mission on Monday

UNITED NATIONS, New York, Feb. 21, (AFP). — The United Nations today announced a four-country Middle East tour by Special Political Affairs Under-Secretary-General Roberto Guter.

From Monday he will visit Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Israel. The aim is to explore the chances of resuming negotiations on bringing peace to the Middle East, a U.N. spokesman said here.

Mr. Guyer, who has been on a number of similar missions in the past, is going as the envoy of Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. The duration of the trip was not stated.

The spokesman recalled that Dr. Waldheim, speaking after a United States veto ended a Security Council Mid-East debate last month had said he would stay in close touch with all the parties concerned because of the urgent need for the active pursuit of a peaceful settlement.

He had contacted the United States and the Soviet Union as co-chairman of the Geneva

Middle East peace conference, inquiring in particular into the possibility of reconvening the conference.

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A vaguer suggestion that would reportedly have American backing would be to enter the question of PLO participation on the conference agenda.

Diplomatic sources here said it was possible, even probable, that Mr. Guyer would meet PLO Leader Yasser Arafat.

They said the new mission showed Dr. Waldheim's concern that the situation should not worsen dangerously because of lack of attempts to break the current impasse.

Mr. Guyer, who has been on a number of similar missions in the past, is going as the envoy of Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. The duration of the trip was not stated.

The spokesman recalled that Dr. Waldheim, speaking after a United States veto ended a Security Council Mid-East debate last month had said he would stay in close touch with all the parties concerned because of the urgent need for the active pursuit of a peaceful settlement.

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Qatar celebrates its fourth anniversary of rule under Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani



halifa pictured during his trip to Iran last year with



Sheikh Khalifa and H.M. King Hussein.



Sheikh Khalifa and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing during the Emir's trip to France in 1975.

marks the fourth anniversary of the ascension to Qatar of His Highness of Qatar-Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, whose reign began on February 22, 1972. Capped by orderly progress the country and the vision of His Highness' movement.

has played a constructive role during these past four years in the context of Arab and international affairs. His Highness Sheikh Khalifa

has actively directed his country's political and economic policies in all fields. He has recently made official state visits to France, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Iraq, Morocco and Tunisia.

Since its independence in September 1971, the state of Qatar has charted a course for itself based on its responsibilities towards its brothers throughout the Arab World and its responsibilities in the interna-

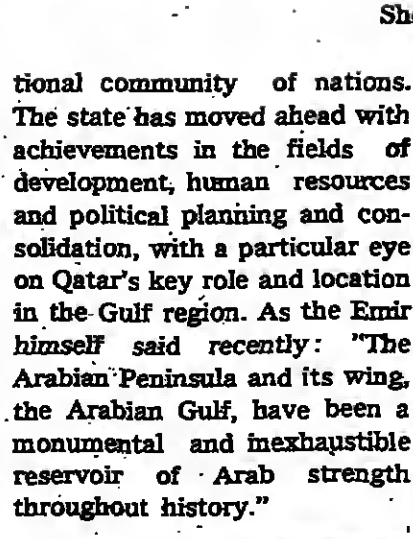
tional community of nations. The state has moved ahead with achievements in the fields of development, human resources and political planning and consolidation, with a particular eye on Qatar's key role and location in the Gulf region. As the Emir himself said recently: "The Arabian Peninsula and its wing, the Arabian Gulf, have been a monumental and inexhaustible reservoir of Arab strength throughout history."

On all levels and in all fields, Qatar has assumed its responsibilities as a member of the Arab League, the United Nations, OPEC and OAPEC.

In the words of Sheikh Khalifa himself: "Genuine cooperation in the task of construction is the only way... the pursuit of this goal with due awareness, sincerity and perseverance is the best guarantee for the achievement of our highest objectives: the consolidation of our strength and steadfastness, continued progress, and development."

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A view of some new roadwork in Qatar.



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of some cargo ships docked at Doha port, Qatar's main sea link with the world.

Tanks dominate the Umm Sa'id petroleum refinery, one of Qatar's major industrial schemes.

Concorde owners pleased with first month's performance

PARIS, Feb. 21 (AFP). — One month after going into service, their new services under the critical gaze of their rivals. The Anglo-French Concorde supersonic airliner continues its round-the-world obstacle race. In one month since Jan. 21 the plane has effected about 40 regular flights between Paris and Rio and between London and Bahrain.

As the plane's adversaries in the United States prepare a further attack, tough negotiations have been going on in Geneva among airlines using the Concorde and the other companies about North Atlantic fares. Air France President Pierre Giraudeau said a day or two ago that he was "satisfied with the excellent regularity" of the plane.

At airports where the plane takes off and lands — London, Bahrain, Paris-Roissy, Dakar and Rio de Janeiro — airlines who do not have the supersonic airliner have been carefully noting the number of passengers entering and leaving it, and the arrival and departure times. Thus Air France and British

The French airline did best on the Rio run with a factor of 80.5 per cent, but it achieved only 61 per cent on the way back.

Henry Marking Managing-Director of British Airways, has said the Bahrain traffic has been better than expected. Incidentally, he has also denied a press report that this service would soon be halted because of poor financial results.

Mr. Marking recalled that his company had never expected the run to Bahrain to give a financial return, and he noted that this distance was the first stage in a hoped-for service to Australia.

The British airline admits it is losing around £800 on the

two-way trip each time.

Meanwhile the British authorities are continuing their discussions with a view to extending the service to Singapore and Melbourne.

India has said that the Concorde can fly over its territory provided it remains at subsonic speed. Australia is expected to make its views known shortly, and aviation sources say the Australian authorities could copy the United States and allow the plane to use its airports for a trial period of 16 months.

Air France will on April 9 start a second service from Paris to Caracas with a stopover in the Azores, taking half the usual time to do the journey.

The British and French airlines are getting ready to fly the Concorde to the United States following the Feb. 4 authorisation to land in America for the 16-month trial period.

The Federal approval is applicable to Washington's Dulles Airport and not to New York Kennedy.

The New York and New Jersey State Legislatures have been



PUSH BUTTON GARDENING: If one's gardening enthusiasm exceeds one's energy, an English company comes to the rescue with an allround cultivator. Change the tool and it will weed, hoe, ridge and rake at the flick of an electric switch.

Northrop reveal connection with foreign pay-off

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 21 (AP). — A major U.S. defence contractor disclosed today that its subsidiaries paid out \$1 million in commission without its knowledge or authority.

Northrop Corporation the payments were made in Greece, Portugal, and Turkey.

It named the firm as Europa S.P.A., of Rome, subsidiary of the Northrop Page Communications Inc. All the staff involved in the payments may have applicable laws.

It said it had informed U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Northrop is one of a group of giant American defence contractors engulfed in a row over foreign pay-offs. It has been accused of over \$30 million in commissions and bribes to foreign officials and agents.

Northrop said the Page Communications Inc. payments were related to its communications and U.S. government contracts were not involved.

Iran says she will supply oil to a foreign buyer

TEL AVIV, Feb. 21 (R). — Shah of Iran was quoted as saying his country would supply oil to any customer without the destination of the oil.

In what was said to be first interview granted Israeli newspaper, the Shah reported to have told a respondent of the paper Aharonot:

"We will supply oil to any country which sends it to our ports. We will not restrict the destinations of the oil."

Since the return of the Rudeis oil fields in Sinai, Egyptians two months ago have been obtaining crude oil supplies from Iran, according to reports here.

From 1967 to 1975 the oil wells were supplying 60 per cent of Israel's oil.

The Shah was quoted as saying he had always told "You cannot remain permanently on territory captured others."

"Any Middle East agreement reached must be based on security Council resolution 242 — that means recognition of the borders of states, which includes Israel as well," he was saying.

Advertisement for prequalifications of contractors

Aqaba Port Expansion Project Jordan

1. The Ministry of Transport of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan intends to invite Tenders from a limited number of suitably qualified contractors for the following contracts which are to be carried out as part of the Aqaba Port Expansion project:

2. The work involves the construction of:

A. GENERAL CARGO BERTHS AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES

This contract will probably comprise the following works:

- (i) The construction of four general cargo berths, each 180 m long. The form of construction will be steel and/or concrete piles with a reinforced concrete deck.
- (ii) The reclamation of land by the deposition of filling material obtained from land borrow areas.
- (iii) The construction of berthing facilities for Roll-on/Roll-off vessels.
- (iv) The construction of four transit sheds and a cold store.
- (v) The construction of roads, open storage areas, services and other minor works.

This contract will provide for all the works to be completed within a maximum period of 24 months contract period, but there will be an additional requirement that two of the general cargo berths shall be completed and brought into service within maximum period of 18 months of the award of the contract.

B. EXTENSIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LIGHTER WHARF AREA.

This contract will probably comprise the following works:

- (i) The provision of a northwards extension of the Lighter Wharf area involving the construction of up to 150 meters of quay wall using steel sheet piles; the reclamation of land to form storage areas by the deposition of filling material obtained from land borrow areas as well as services and other minor works.
- (ii) The redevelopment of the existing Lighter Wharf area involving the demolition of existing buildings; the construction of roads and paved storage areas and alterations to services.
- (iii) The construction of a new cargo storage area to the east of the Lighter Wharf area involving earth moving and the construction of roads, paved storage areas and services.

The contract will provide for the Northwards Extension of the Lighter Wharf area to be completed within 9 months of the award of the contract.

3. The foregoing descriptions of contracts are intended merely to give an indication of the nature and scope of work which may be included in the contracts. The Ministry of Transport reserves the right to vary from the foregoing descriptions in the nature and scope of work actually included in tender documents.

4. Contractors with relevant experience who wish to be given the opportunity to tender for each or both contracts should apply in the first instance to the Ministry of Transport, P.O. Box 1929, Amman, Jordan, for forms giving details of the information to be submitted for prequalification purposes. These forms will be issued to interested firms on and after 25th February, 1976. They must be filled in 3 copies and in English and returned to the Ministry of Transport with all the necessary information and supporting documentation by 12 noon on 1st April 1976.

5. For any further information about the above works, contractors may contact the Consulting Engineers — Parsons Brown and Newton/Jouzu and Partners — Joint Venture in Amman or London.

PARSONS BROWN & NEWTON,
22 Greencoat Place,
Westminster — London SW1
U.K.

JOUZU AND PARTNERS,
P.O. Box 9112,
Tel. 63902,
Amman, JORDAN.

6. The Ministry of Transport will notify contractors who have successfully qualified to bid for the work and supply them with information regarding the preparation of bids. Reason for rejection of applicants for prequalification will not be given.

Coleman has no fear of Concorde

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AFP). — Transport Secretary William Coleman, who has authorised a 16-month test period for Concorde landings in the U.S. is not personally worried about the risk of supersonic flights causing skin cancer.

Questioned on this point by Senate investigators who suggested that Concorde could upset the protective ozone layer around the earth, Mr. Coleman replied philosophically:

"No. I have no problem with skin cancer. I am black and it only affects whites."

presented with a bill that would ban landings by supersonic aircraft.

The board of the Port Authority of New York, which has the final say, is due to meet on Mar. 11 and 12 to discuss the subject.

In Geneva, airline chiefs have been looking at North Atlantic fares for the Concorde from April 1 onwards. Air France and British Airways are asking that a proposed surcharge for the Concorde be something between five and 10 per cent, whereas other airlines want between 20 and 40 per cent.

Failing agreement, the British and French governments are likely to fix the fares themselves.

Price rise rate cut in half

LONDON, Feb. 21, (LPS). — British retail prices are now going up less than half as quickly as they were in the middle of last year. According to the most reliable indicator, the rate of increase on an annual basis is now well under 14 per cent, compared with 35 per cent last June.

The mid-January retail price index, says the Department of Employment, shows a 23.4 per cent rise in the twelve months since January of last year. This is the lowest twelve-month rise recorded since last April.

ECONOMIC BRIEFS

● CAIRO. — The United Nations granted Egypt \$15 million for rebuilding the Suez Canal zone.

● BUDAPEST. — Hungary has won a contract to build a 500 km. railway from Tripoli, Libya, to the Tunisian border town of Sfax.

● NEW DELHI. — India has agreed to supply \$630 million worth of iron ore slurry to Iran.

The supplies would begin after four and a half years and be spread over a period of 20 years.

● TOKYO. — China has informed Japan of its decision to cut its supply of crude oil by half in February, oil industry sources said today. Under the decision, Chinese oil supply to Japan this month will now total about 250 thousand tons as compared with the originally planned 500 thousand tons.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official Amman exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils:

U.S. dollar : 329—331
U.K. sterling : 668—674
French franc : 736—739
Swiss franc : 128.7—129.1

German mark : 128.8—129.2
Iraqi dinar : 905—910
Kuwaiti dinar : 1120—1123
Libyan dinar : 715—735
Algerian dinar : 42.5—45.2
Saudi riyal : 92.9—93.2
Syrian pound : 84.8—85.7
Egyptian pound : 460—470
Lebanese pound : 134.7—135.6
UAE dirham : 82.6—83

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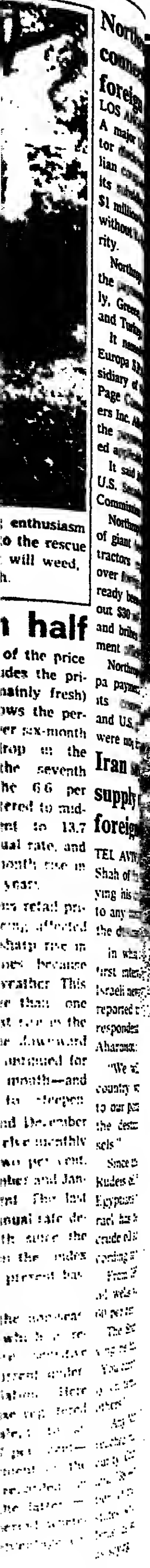
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Firas Wings Hotel Jebel L'Weibdeh - Amman. Tel. 22103/4. Choice three set menus daily lunch and a La Carte. Open for lunch 12-3 p.m. and dinner 7-11 p.m. K. ly book your table.

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